

Amateur Computer Group of New Jersey NEWS

Volume 36, Number 08

August 2011



REMEMBER THESE DATES:

July 16, 2011 was the eighteenth anniversary of Slackware Linux, first released in 1993 by Patrick Volkerding. Slackware is the **oldest** surviving Linux distribution. (There are many Linux variants derived from Slackware).

August 16, 2011 is the eighteenth anniversary of Debian GNU/Linux, first released in 1993 by Ian Murdock. Debian is the **second** oldest surviving Linux distribution. (Ubuntu is based on Debian, as are many other “flavors” of Linux).

September 27, 2011 will be the **twenty-eighth** anniversary of GNU (GNU's Not Unix), first announced in 1983 by Richard Stallman. This is the **true** date of origin for the operating system that we now call Linux. (In its name, Debian GNU/Linux acknowledges its GNU “roots”. Slackware Linux, like most others, does **not**).

ACGNJ HAS AUGUST ACTIVITIES!

While some of our club is shut down during August, a lot is **not**. Many of our Special Interest Groups have meetings scheduled. When you're not "riding the wild surf" or "catching some rays", maybe you might consider attending a few of them. Have you been curious about one or more of the SIGs below, but just haven't found the time to “drop in”? This could be the opportunity you've been looking for. Then, there's our annual Planning Meeting. In many ways, this can be considered our most important public meeting of the year. You want to affect the direction the club is taking? This is where it happens.

Have a great August, full of fun, adventure and relaxation; and computer stuff **too**!

SCHEDULED AUGUST MEETINGS:

August 1 (Monday) Lunics (Linux/UNIX) 8:00 PM.

Java (**No** August Meeting).

August 10 (Wednesday) Mobile Devices 7:00 PM.

August 11 (Thursday) Computerized Investing 8:00 PM.

August 12 (Friday) NJ Gamers 6:00 PM.

Firefox (**No** August Meeting).

August 19 (Friday) Planning Meeting 7:00 PM.

August 25 (Thursday) Hardware Workshop 8:00 PM.

August 30 (Tuesday) Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 PM.

Sep. 2 (Friday) Main Meeting **CANCELED** (Labor Day weekend).

Please note that this summer schedule is even shakier than usual. So before you leave, please be sure to check the club web site for last-minute cancellations (www.acgnj.org).

(For further details, see *Brief SIG Information* on page 3).



<http://www.acgnj.org>

Founded 1975

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ACGNJ News

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Submissions: Articles, reviews, cartoons, illustrations. Most common formats are acceptable. Graphics embedded in the document must also be included as separate files. E-mail submissions to **bdegroot@ptd.net** preferred. **Always confirm.** Date review and include name of word processor used, your name, address and phone and name, address and phone of manufacturer, if available.

Tips for reviewers: Why does anyone need it? Why did you like it or hate it? Ease (or difficulty) of installation, learning and use. Would you pay for it?

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Advertising: Non-commercial announcements from members are free. Commercial ads 15 cents per word, \$5 minimum. Camera ready display ads: Full page (7 x 10 inches) \$150, two-thirds page (4.5 x 10) \$115, half-page \$85, one-third \$57, quarter \$50, eighth \$30. Discount 10% on 3 or more consecutive insertions. Enclose payment.

Publication Exchange: Other computer user groups are invited to send a subscription to ACGNJ at the address below. We will respond in kind.

Address Changes should be e-mailed to **membership@acgnj.org** or sent to ACGNJ at the address below.

Membership: Regular (now includes *all* family members who reside at the same address): 1 year \$25, 2 years \$40, 3 years \$55. Student: 1 year \$20. Senior Citizen (over 65): 1 year \$20, 3 years \$45. Send name, address and payment to ACGNJ, PO Box 135, Scotch Plains NJ 07076.

Typographic Note: This ACGNJ News was produced using Scribus 1.3.3.13. Font families used are Times New Roman (TT) for body text, Arial (TT) for headlines.

E-Mail Addresses

Here are the e-mail addresses of ACGNJ Officers, Directors and SIG Leaders (and the Newsletter Editor). This list is also at (<http://www.acgnj.org/officers.html>).

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Brief SIG Information

Computerized Investing features presentations and instructions on learning, selecting and using various charting and technical analysis software. The object, of course, being profitable investment. Meetings are generally "free flow", following whatever questions come from the group. Primary focus is on Telechart and Tradestation; but users of other software and platforms are very welcome.

Jim Cooper (jim@thecoopers.org).

Firefox: No July or August meetings this year.

David McRitchie (firefox@acgnj.org).

Hardware Workshop is dedicated to refurbishing, repairing and/or recycling older computers. It celebrated its Second Anniversary in May of 2011.

Mike Reagan (hardware@acgnj.org).

Java: No August meeting will be held this year.

Mike Redlich (mike@redlich.net).

Lunics is a group for those who share an interest in Linux or other Unix-like operating systems (such as BSD and Solaris). Recent meetings have followed a Random Access format. Andreas Meyer (lunics@acgnj.org).

Mobile Devices is a SIG focusing largely on current-generation cellphones and smartphones (such as Blackberry, Android, iPhone) which bridge the gap between basic cell phones and traditional computers, and how they can help you manage and organize your life. We are open to all levels of user, from the novice to the developer. Come with your questions as well as your curiosity. Brenda Bell (mobdevsig@acgnj.org).

NJ Gamers sessions go for *eighteen* hours, with a \$5.00 admission charge. Bring-Your-Own-Computer, Bring-Your-Own-Food, and Bring-Your-Own-Chair (if you want to be comfortable).


Gregg McCarthy (greggmajestic@gmail.com).

Planning Meeting: This year is especially important. The club's future, indeed its very survival, could be in the balance. Plus, it's a dinner meeting, so there'll be **Free Food!** But there's a catch. If you attend, you have to bring two possible meeting topics with you. For further information, and instructions on how to RSVP, go to:

<http://www.acgnj.org/pm/pma.html> 

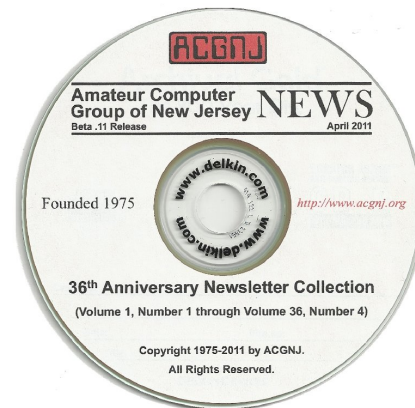
About This Issue

Three years ago now, I wrote my *End-of-June 2008 Supplement* (which originally went out as a straight e-mail, **not** as a PDF), and my twenty page *End-of-Year 2008 Supplement*. I'm sure that I mentioned them in several contemporary articles, but I **don't** think I went into too much detail about the actual "nuts and bolts" of their construction. Two years ago, that changed. In *July & August Revisited* (my article for our September 2009 issue), I gave **lots** of details; and last year, in *Desktop Publishing Adventures* (my article for our September 2010 issue), I did the same. This September, I'll have to come up with something **else** to write about, because I've been "self-documenting" my 2011 July and August newsletters as I write them. Last month, in *About This Issue* and *In Search of the Missing Links*, I described how I was **finally** able to "work around" my Scribus link difficulties. This month (in *How... Big... Was It?* on page 9), I collected page by page data, recording how each step I took in the production of this newsletter affected the size of my output PDF file. Hopefully, it'll be interesting in and of itself, and will also provide me with a reliable guide that I can use to "keep a lid on" the final PDF sizes of any future issues I create with Scribus.

Ultimately, however, my goal is to deliver a useful, entertaining and informative newsletter. How'd I do? 

August 2011

36th Anniversary Newsletter CD Now On Sale



Beta .11 Release.

\$8.00, including postage.

(\$7.00 if you pick up a copy at a meeting).

Get yours today!

Back Issues Still Needed

Our collection remains incomplete. Below is a list of missing newsletters. Anyone who lends us one of these (or supplies a good clear copy) will receive the next CD as our thanks.

1975: #2 and #3 (dates uncertain).

1976: January.

1984: August.

1985: June, July, August, September. 

ACGNJ 36th Anniversary Party Report

Bob Hawes, ACGNJ

At our Window Pains meeting on Friday, June 17, 2011, I hosted a party for the 36th Anniversary of ACGNJ. (That was really four days **after** the actual date, because our club held its first meeting on June 13th, 1975). For refreshments, I served Carvel Ice Cream Cake **and** seven-layer cake (white cake, chocolate icing, my favorite). In addition to our usual assortment of soda, I brought instant coffee, creamer and sweetener from home. That way, anybody who wanted to make their own coffee in the kitchen microwave could do so; but apparently nobody did. While the ravening horde was chowing down (they completely consumed the Ice Cream Cake; but **not** the seven-layer cake), I played the following videos. If you missed the party, you can experience a reasonable facsimile by assembling your own refreshments and following these links. (Lately, some sites have been playing ads before their videos. These links **were** commercial free, but who knows if they'll stay that way).

I opened with an audio promo made by "Big Dan" Ingram for radio station WABC AM 770 in the early sixties. This first link leads to a file containing **fourteen** minutes of 1961 and early 1962 WABC Radio Promos. I **only** played the **first** one, the *WABC Fifty Thousand*

(Continued Above Right)

Shemp appeared at the same time. Plus, you've got Larry thrown in, too. Four Stooges!!!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sk4ujI-EOMk>

In the late forties and early fifties, Abbot and Costello filmed variations of the old "Slowly I turned" bit, using "Niagara Falls", "Pokomoko", and several other words as trigger phrases; but **they** didn't invent it. That classic routine has been traced back to at least 1913, and it may go back even further. Anyway, the Three Stooges performed **their** version of it in the 1944 short, *Gents Without Cents*. You **can** find a complete version of *Gents Without Cents* on YouTube if you want; but it's cut into two ten minute parts, and it splits right **inside** this routine. This four minute clip neatly contains the whole thing. In my opinion, it's the best part, and all you really need to see. (Plus, can you find where Larry blows a line near the end? They didn't even **try** to fix it in post production).

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_yJBhzMWJCC

One last bit of frivolity: In this five minute music video, the sound levels are slightly off (to my ears, anyway); but that's **not** the really unusual thing about it. As you watch, can you figure out what it is?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PWgvGjAhvIw>

Rather than write the answer here, where you might

Dollar Reverse Giveaway Contest, an in-house joke that was never actually broadcast. (Don't forget to stop your player before another promo starts).

<http://www.musicradio77.com/images/ingrampromos61a.mp3>

From 1962, here's another promo made by "Big Dan", the *WABC Good Guys Tie Exchange*, a joke promo that really **was** broadcast over the air. (I wonder how many people actually mailed in their ties). Note the use of the "Good Guys". Rival radio station WMCA later successfully usurped that slogan, but you can see here (hear here?) that WABC had it first.

<http://www.musicradio77.com/images/pmotie62pcm.mp3>

Progressing to videos, I next played two short clips of the Three Stooges. This first historic scene is just thirty seconds long, but it took me even longer than that to explain it. Curly had a stroke in May of 1946, and had to retire. This scene is from *Hold That Lion*, the third film made after Shemp rejoined the Stooges. Curly was in pretty good health at the time, and he just happened to be visiting the set. Director Jules White spontaneously thought of a way to fit Curly into a scene they were filming that day, and Curly was happy to do it. This is the **only** piece of film in which brothers Moe, Curly and

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accidentally read it **before** watching the video, I've included a link to an article that explains it all.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hey_Ya!/#Music_video

Now we get to the good stuff. The first two videos are from TED, a nonprofit devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading. (It started out in 1984 as a conference bringing together people from three worlds: **T**echnology, **E**ntertainment, and **D**esign. Since then, its scope has become ever broader). In "Remaking My Voice", Roger Ebert talks about why he **can't** talk any more (19 minutes, 30 seconds).

http://www.ted.com/talks/roger_ebert_remaking_my_voice.html

In "The Invention That Unlocked a Locked-in Artist", Mick Ebeling describes how he helped to design equipment that now allows an artist (who is paralyzed except for his eyes) to draw again (7 minutes, 50 seconds).

http://www.ted.com/talks/mick_ebeling_the_invention_that_unlocked_a_locked_in_artist.html

Our third, last, and longest selection was a lecture put on by The Center for the Study of the Public Domain at Duke University. In "Theft! A History of Music", Professor Jennifer Jenkins discusses the history of musical borrowing and regulation, from Plato to hip hop. This video has some sound level trouble at the beginning.

You'll have to turn your volume way up for the first two minutes, and then quickly cut it back down. I suppose it's possible that in 1944 they didn't have the technology (or maybe the budget) to fix Larry's blooper; but nowadays, any talented kid with a fairly decent computer could have minimized this problem, if not fixed it completely. I *can't*

understand how they just let it go out this way.

<http://ondemand.duke.edu/video/24263/theft-a-history-of-music>

I must admit that I lost some of my audience during this not quite hour long video, but I hope you stuck with it; and I hope you enjoyed your virtual party as much as *we* enjoyed the original. ☺

Create PDF Files for Free

by Ira Wilsker

If you have downloaded many documents from the Internet, you have likely come across many that are in PDF format. Portable Document Format (PDF) has been around for almost 20 years, and has become the de facto standard document format that embeds text, fonts, and graphics into the document, such that it will appear the same regardless of the operating system on the computer. Originally a proprietary format developed by Adobe that had required an expensive utility, Adobe Acrobat, in order to create PDF files, PDF became an open standard in 2008. While Acrobat was an expensive commercial program used to create PDF files, Adobe Reader has been a free staple included on almost all new computers over the past several years to display documents created with Adobe Acrobat. In the past few years, many free PDF

readers have become available that claim to offer some advantages over the original Adobe Reader; my personal choice for a PDF reader is Foxit, with over 100 million copies downloaded, and available for free from www.foxitsoftware.com/products/reader.

Until a few years ago, Adobe Acrobat had a virtual monopoly on the ability to create PDF files; over the past several years, several other free and commercial PDF writers have come on the market, and PDF creation is now integrally included in many of the newer office suites, without the need of a separate PDF writer. Recently, Gizmo's TechSupportAlert.com updated its listings and evaluations of free PDF writing software, and corroborated my choices of PDF writers that I have been using for the past few years.

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For several years, going back to my obsolescent XP computer, I had happily used a free PDF creator, CutePDF Writer (cutepdf.com). When I first used my Windows 7-64 computer, I had some issues with CutePDF on my Windows 7-64 computer (now resolved with the newer versions), so I tried several competing free PDF writers. As with almost all other PDF creators or writers, CutePDF Writer is installed and used like a printer driver. In order to create a PDF with almost all PDF writers, simply click on PRINT from the program being used to create or display a document, and select the PDF utility instead of a physical printer. The PDF creating software will function somewhat like a printer, but instead of putting the output on paper, it will create the output as a PDF file. The output thus created is "WYSIWYG" (What You See Is What You Get), with the new PDF document being identical in appearance to the one created or viewed. Almost all PDF writers allow the user to save the PDF with a default file name (often the same as the original document but with a PDF extension), or to manually enter a file name. In addition to being able to print (save) almost all documents as a PDF, I also use my chosen PDF writer to save web pages. From my browser (usually Firefox) I click on FILE - PRINT and select one of my PDF printers; within seconds I have an

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exact copy of the web page saved as a PDF file. I do precisely this whenever I order anything online, saving both a copy of the webpage displaying the item, and a copy of my itemized receipt. I also frequently save as PDF files (print to PDF) news stories, emails, and other documents that I want to preserve. Basically, anything that can be printed, can also be saved in PDF format precisely preserving color, format, font, and other information from the page.

On all of my computers, I am now predominately using the Bullzip Free PDF Printer (bullzip.com) to create PDF files. Bullzip Free PDF Printer is currently rated by Gizmo's TechSupportAlert.com as the top rated free PDF writer. It can run on any 32 or 64 bit version of Windows from Windows 2000 to Windows 7, including XP and Vista. Bullzip offers as user selected options password protection and encryption of PDF files, quality settings, watermarks, and the ability to create documents in formats other than PDF (BMP, JPEG, PCX, PDF, PNG, and TIFF). For most users, there is no need to change any of the settings as the default settings work fine.

Now that CutePDF Writer has been revised to better support Windows 7-64 (it always worked flawlessly on XP and Vista), it has become my secondary PDF creator. One simple feature that I like about CutePDF Writer

(cutepdf.com) is that when a PDF file is created, the traditional Windows "Save As" window opens, allowing the user to easily select the directory (or use the default) where the PDF file should be saved. CutePDF Writer, as well as many other PDF writers, require that some recent version of a PS2PDF converter, such as Ghostscript, be installed on the computer. The necessary Ghostscript file (free) is linked from the download page where the PDF writers are downloaded. "GNU Ghostscript is an open-source interpreter for the PostScript language and the PDF file format. It is distributed under the GNU General Public License".

Being somewhat of a software junkie, I have several PDF writers installed on my computer. Another free PDF writer that I periodically use is PDFCreator, available from sourceforge.net/projects/pdfcreator. PDFCreator is listed as "Unrestricted Freeware" and runs on Windows 98, 2000, XP, Vista, and Windows 7 (32bit and 64bit). While simple to use, and lacking a lot of options (that most people would never use), PDFCreator could be a good choice for those who want a simple PDF writer. Installation is easy as no separate Ghostscript converter is necessary. Another good PDF writer that I have installed on my computer is NitroPDF Reader which includes both a PDF writer and reader. According to its website (www.nitroreader.com), NitroPDF Reader can "Create

PDF files, comment and review, save PDF forms, extract text and images, type text directly onto the page, and more." NitroPDF Reader also allows the user to type on an otherwise locked PDF form, entering text as if filling out a form, negating the necessity of printing the form on paper, and then filling the blanks by hand. Since NitroPDF Reader is both a reader and a writer, and includes many other powerful and useful features, it may be an excellent choice for most users.

With these free PDF utilities, all of which can create PDF files as simple as clicking on the print button, there is almost no reason to spend a lot of money purchasing a commercial PDF creator. All of these creators or writers work just fine when creating PDF files from almost any type of document.

WEBSITES:

<http://www.techsupportalert.com/best-free-pdf-writer.htm>
<http://www.bullzip.com>
<http://www.cutepdf.com>
<http://www.pdfill.com>
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PDF>
<http://www.foxitsoftware.com/products/reader>
<http://downloads.ghostscript.com/public>
<http://sourceforge.net/projects/pdfcreator>
<http://www.nitroreader.com> 

December 2010/April 2011 Award Certificates

Bob Hawes, ACGNJ

At our December 5th, 2008 Main Meeting, the ACGNJ Board of Directors presented framed award certificates to seven then-current club functionaries (Bruce Arnold, Barbara DeGroot, Bill Farrell, Malthi Masurekar, Arnold Milstein, John Raff, and Matt Skoda). Then, at our December 4th, 2009 Main Meeting, we presented eight additional certificates to current (or former) club functionaries (Bruce Arnold, Mike Barlow, Jim Ditaranto, Sheldon Koepf, Andreas Meyer, John Raff, Scott Vincent, and Frank Warren). Since Bruce and John had received awards in both years, that gave us a total of thirteen individual honorees. Recently, at our December 3rd, 2010 Main Meeting, we presented three new awards: One to current office holder Evan Williams, and two to "old timers" Jo-Anne Head and Martin Rosenblum. That brought our grand total to sixteen. This coming December, we'll probably be adding three more (Sol Libes, Burke Mawby and Mike Redlich). So far, Gregg McCarthy seems to be the only candidate for 2012. He'd bring our total to twenty. We'll make twenty-one when Matt Skoda reaches Double Decade status in 2013; and

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then we'll hit a dry spell. (Don McBride and I were both elected to the Board of Directors in December of 2007. That means we didn't start serving until 2008, and thus won't qualify for Decade Plus until 2018).

Before we get to specific awards, though, we need to talk about image file formats in general. For color bitmap output, Scribus can create five image types: BMP (**BitMaP**), JPG (or JPEG, for **Joint Photographic Experts Group**), PNG (**P**ortable **N**etwork **G**raphics), PPM (**P**ortable **P**ixel **M**ap) and XPM (**X**Pix**M**ap). For color bitmap input, Scribus can read six image types: GIF (**G**raphics **I**nterchange **F**ormat), JPG, PNG, PSD (**P**hoto**S**hop **D**ocument), TIF (or TIFF, for **T**agged **I**mage **F**ile **F**ormat) and XPM. There are a few **non**-color output file formats, which we'll ignore; and there are also some non-bitmap formats, which we'll **also** ignore. (**Except**, of course, for PDF, **P**ortable **D**ocument **F**ormat). For the moment, we'll skip over the single JPG image (which has a more complex origin), and look at the others (all of which originated as pages in the same Scribus file). To get those images out of **that** Scribus work file, and then

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get them into **this** one, I had to create separate intermediate files for them. So first I exported each full page size award certificate into its own graphics file. (Just to be diverse, I chose a different output format for each one). Then, I re-imported those files into quarter page size "image frames" that I placed in appropriate spots on the pages of this newsletter, and I surrounded four of them with phony black boxes, to simulate the picture frames that enclosed those printed certificates in real life. (The other two got different treatment, which I'll explain later). Because (for some wacky reason that's **completely** beyond my understanding) the Scribus input and output file sets **don't** match, I had to use the GIMP (GNU Image Manipulation Program) to convert some of those output files into a valid input type. (It wasn't hard, but it *was* annoying).

First, from the December 3rd Main Meeting, we have Jo-Anne (**Figure 1**), Martin (**Figure 2**) and Evan (**Figure 3**). Figure 1 is a GIF image. (It was exported from Scribus as a BMP file, and then converted by the GIMP). Figure 2 is a PNG image. (It didn't need to be converted). Figure 3 is a PSD image. (It was exported from Scribus as a PPM file, then also converted by the GIMP). Next, on December 9th, the Investment Special Interest Group held a celebration for their Chairman (Jim Cooper), and they
(Continued on next page)



asked me to make a certificate for him. So I did (Figure 4). Then, as in previous years, I pandered to my own ego by awarding a certificate to myself (Figure 5). I gave it the date of December 18th, 2010; and please note that I did **not** usurp the good name of ACGNJ. I made up my own phony club name instead. (Figure 4 is a TIF image that was exported from Scribus as a PDF file, then converted by the GIMP; and Figure 5 is an XPM image that didn't need to be converted).

Also as in previous years, I gave **my** certificate a frame that I **didn't** think was “good enough” to be given to a **real** recipient. This frame had a glass front that was held in place by a **very** thin black plastic edge all the way around (only about one sixteenth of an inch thick). It had a nice, clean look. (Indeed, I had no problems with the front. It was the support system in the **back** that I considered deficient). For my previous certificate designs, I'd had to leave half inch top, bottom and side margins, because my old printer just wouldn't print there. In this latest design, my border contained very thick “lattice”, which encroached on my internal text area. To get more room in the center, I decreased the external margins of my first four awards to a quarter inch all around, and my **new** printer printed them just fine. Now, for this more “open” frame, I wanted to cut down the outside white space on my own version even more. So I decreased its margins to almost nothing. That way, the eighth inch thick rectangular “ring” that surrounded everything else would be moved quite close to the frame's black plastic edge. I thought this would produce a nice “concentric” look. Unfortunately, that's **not** what happened. Apparently, my new printer won't print in the outer **quarter** inch areas of a page, because that “ring” just vanished. So my certificate had quarter inch margins, exactly like the others, but it didn't have an outer ring; and since it **still** looked good, I was stuck with it. My parsimonious nature just wouldn't let me waste expensive printer ink by making a new copy for such a minor difference.

Finally, as Monty Python used to say; “And now for something completely different”. At the TCF banquet on April 2nd, 2011, we presented the Hobbyist of the Year Award to Andreas Meyer. (You can see a picture of the award actually being given to Andy on page 1 of our June 2011 issue. Also please note that Hobbyist of the Year is an ACGNJ award, **not** a TCF award). This certificate was also framed differently, in that it **wasn't** framed at all. Instead, it was mounted on a plaque. (Indeed, you can see the four tacks that hold it in place when you look at the picture). Plus, it **wasn't** hollow, so it had a nice, solid, weighty feel to it. Somehow, it just seemed more substantial; and it also looked more official. That's



Figure 4

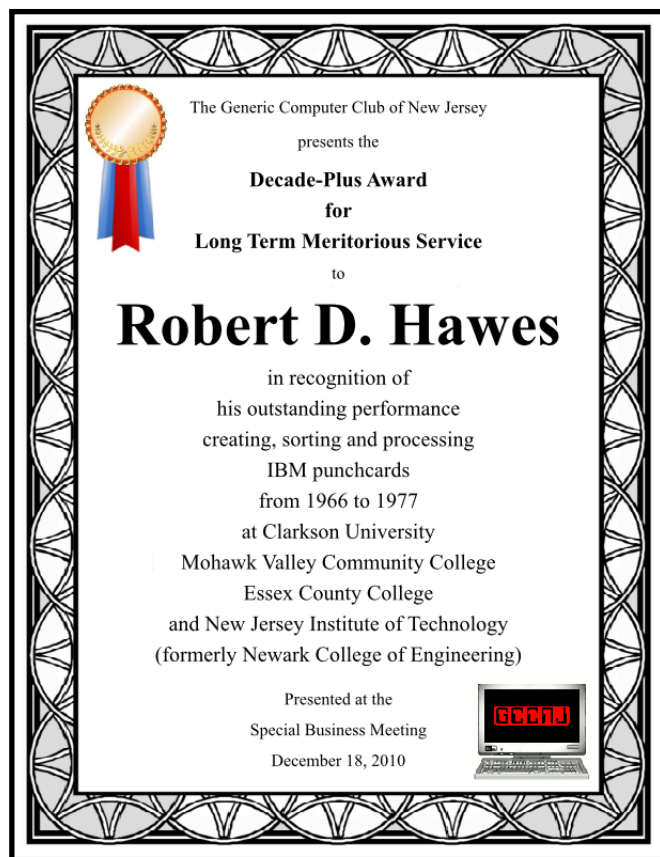


Figure 5

because we recently dug up our Corporate Seal, and this certificate is the first document it's been used on in quite a while. Unhappily, I now have to admit to a mistake. After I affixed the Seal in place, I intended to scan the completed document into my computer, but I **forgot**. So the image I have on file **doesn't** have the Seal on it. Fortunately, Eric Hafler took a close-up photo (Figure 6) of the plaque at TCF. Figure 7 is also Eric's JPG image, but *after* I used the GIMP's Rotation Tool to level it horizontally, Perspective Tool to square it up vertically, and regular editing tools to cut off those intruding fingertips. (Ouch!)

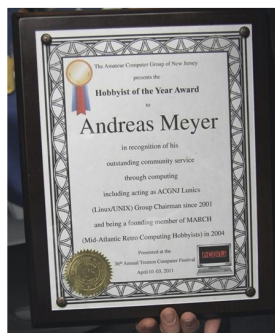


Figure 6

When we first started collecting information about long term service, John Raff suggested that we consider making a Wall of Honor. I counter-suggested that we create a **virtual** Wall of Honor, consisting of **everybody** who ever did **anything** for the club. Now, considering the relatively low number of Decade Plus recipients we've uncovered thus far, maybe it'll be possible for us to do **both**. Wouldn't that be nice? ☞



Figure 7

How... Big... Was It?

Bob Hawes, ACGNJ

I took this article's title from a running gag on the old *Tonight Show*. Johnny Carson would say something about it being hot. Ed McMahon, in his resounding “announcer” voice, would ask; “How (pause) hot (pause) was it”? Then, Johnny would reply; “It was *so* hot that (insert joke here)”. In their thirty year reign, Johnny and Ed used that routine a **lot**. I figure I can borrow it once, referring to the output size of my latest newsletter PDF file. So let's look at sizes and page counts for the eight newsletters that I've produced thus far: 245 KB (4 pages), 4.3 MB (20 pages), 1.8 MB (10 pages), 2.3 MB (15 pages), 6.2 MB (8 pages), 2.0 MB (14 pages), 84.7 KB (4 pages) and 3.5 MB (16 pages). Now, let's compare them to the rest of our newsletters. For the first twenty years of our collection, the files measure fairly consistently in the 1 to 2 MB range. That's because those were all issues that Barbara scanned in after she became Editor in 1995, so they're **all** images. The issues Barbara created during her first three years were mostly

scanned in as well, and also sit nicely in that range. From 1998 onward, Barbara began producing her PDF files directly from Ventura Publisher, and her output file size went **way** down. As things stand right now, there's just no way that I can match those sizes for a 16 page issue; but I **can** shoot for a size of about 2 MB. Counting that 2.3 MB fifteen pager as an honorary 2, that leaves three issues that fell outside of my target range. Let's look at them a bit more closely.

Taking them in order, we first come to the 4.3 MB twenty pager, my End-of-Year 2008 Supplement. Last month, I mentioned that it had reached that length because it included reference copies of our December 2001 Constitution and By-Laws (which had never before been printed in our newsletter, just posted on the club website); and it also included a reference copy of our ill-fated December 2008 By-Laws (which, based on legal advice, we revised again in May 2009). Although that may be how it got its length, long winded wording alone can't explain

its size (because text **doesn't** contribute all that much to size). However, it also featured my first *Award Certificates* article (containing 15 images), and it had even more graphics beyond that. A total of **23** images, only **3** of which had resolutions **less** than 144 dots per inch. (I know this because Scribus throws up an error message any time it encounters an image smaller than 144 dpi). Could it be that I've spotted a trend?

Next we have the 6.2 MB eight pager, my July 2010 issue. It contained 14 images, only **2** of which had a resolution **less** than 144 dpi. (More evidence). Before I get too excited, though, I'd better look at my August 2010 issue, a 2.0 MB fourteen pager. It contained a total of 21 images, but **14** of them had resolutions **less** than 144 dpi. (By George, I think I've got it)! Finally, let's look at the 3.5 MB sixteen pager, last month's July 2011 issue. It contained 8 images, only **2** of which had a resolution **less** than 144 dpi; and what's more, two of the others were **biggies**. Almost the entire contents of pages 15 and 16 were taken up by single images. (Those two

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So what could I do right now, for **this** particular newsletter? Quite a bit, actually. For starters, I created a new PDF file containing 16 **empty** pages, just to see how big it would be. It measured 7.0 KB. This made me think that maybe Scribus had **hardly any** "overhead" at all. It looked like, if I was careful, I could have **much** more control over my final outcome than I've previously realized. So I decided to see exactly **how** small I can get, without sacrificing **too** much quality. (Did that last sentence remind you of Steve Martin's 1977 *Let's Get Small* routine? It did for me). In the overall layout of this newsletter, pages 1, 2, 15 and 16 are fairly unique; but the center twelve pages pretty much follow a common format. So I changed page 3 into a "general purpose" text page. Such a page has a black bar at the top, with two side by side quarter page size text frames underneath it. Then a "Continued" strip in the middle of the page, with two more side by side quarter page size text frames beneath it, too. Either that bar or that strip (or both if necessary) could easily be changed into a Header box, to hold an article's Author and Title information when needed.

images were more or less total copies of two complicated pages from Barbara's June 2011 newsletter, which I just **didn't** have time to re-create from scratch under Scribus). Here, I must confess that I've been keeping something from you. Last month, when I created my first "final draft" PDF file of that issue, it measured **4.6** MB. I was appalled, and I immediately suspected pages 15 and 16. So I deleted **both** of those images from my Scribus work file, and then I made another PDF file. **It** measured **3.0** MB. That confirmed my suspicions. Because I wanted those two pages to be "sharp", I'd originally produced their two images at **400** dpi each. I quickly re-did them at 150 dpi, imported those smaller versions into my work file, and then made another "final draft". It came out as 3.5 MB, and those two pages still looked "sharp". I could have experimented with even lower resolutions, but I **knew** that I'd never get it lower than 3.0 MB. So I was glad enough to accept 3.5. My working theory from now on: I've got to keep a **lot** closer watch on my image file resolutions.

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Plus, of course, any of those page elements can be re-sized or removed to make way for image frames if required; but lots of these pages wind up being used just as they are. All in all, it's a predictable yet very versatile arrangement.

Anyway, I inserted the four quarter page text frames into page 3 first, then saved it as a PDF. It measured 7.1 KB. So far, so good. Moving on, I inserted the top bar (which is actually two text frames) and the center strip (which is actually two lines **and** two text frames); and saved it as a PDF again. This time, it came out as 351.6 KB. **Now** we're talking overhead. That's **bigger** than **seven** out of the last ten **complete** newsletters that Barbara sent us. Wow! Hoping I'd made a mistake somehow, I started all over again absolutely from scratch, and got a PDF file measuring 355.9 KB. So much for my dreams of ultimate smallness; but I still had to make an August newsletter, no matter **what** its final size, so I persevered. I deleted eleven of the blank center pages, and replaced them with eleven copies of page 3. That gave me a 363.9 KB PDF file. Since I now had two essentially identical "empty" Scribus source

files, I did the same thing to the other one, and got **another** 363.9 KB PDF file. Those results led me to two conclusions. First: Happily, whatever additional overhead Scribus generated when I made my changes to page 3, it must now be sharing with pages 4 through 14 (my **eleven** additional copies). Second: Also happily, since my two output files were now virtually identical, I only needed to work with **one** of my source files from that point on.

So what next? Page 1, of course. Barbara has been using **her** version of our newsletter masthead since she became Editor in 1995; and the design goes back even further. I was able to trace a recognizable

(Continued Above Right)



Figure A

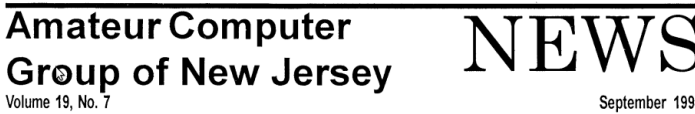


Figure B

official act, she up-sized the letters, thus reducing the white space in the middle (Figure C). In the more than sixteen years until June 2011 (Figure D), hardly anything changed at all.

Recently, when I asked her, Barbara told me that she tried to replicate the style of the older masthead design when she made her version. Not coincidentally, that's exactly what I attempted three years ago when I first did mine. **My** latest version is made up of two lines and five text frames. So I created those seven elements from scratch on my page 1. (Following a list of measurements, font sizes, etc. that I copied from the source file for **last** year's August issue). Then I exported another PDF, and got a file measuring 419.3 KB. Another 55.4 KB bigger. Sigh! Now for the front cover picture. I created four versions, with four resolutions: 50 dpi, 72 dpi, 100 dpi and 150 dpi. My four resultant PDF files measured 453.3, 478.5, 488.8 and 502.7 KB, respectively. As far as viewability went, even the 50 dpi image was pretty good; but this image **does**, after all, feature a girl in a bikini. So I stuck with the 150 dpi version. (Besides, I can always switch back later, if I have to). Finishing out the page, I added the

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ancestor of our current masthead back to our October 1976 issue (Figure A). Back then, Sol Libes was both ACGNJ President **and** Newsletter Editor. That was the 15th newsletter published by the club, and the first one produced by a professional typesetting service. (Although our relationship with that particular business only lasted for a few months). Several times, especially during the eighties, more graphical masthead versions **were** tried; but each eventually faded away, replaced once again by this design. Figure B is from September of 1994, when Alice Lebenson was Editor and Bob Todd was Publisher. In the intervening eighteen years, the word "Group" had migrated down to the lower line, the techno-font had been replaced by a more traditional example, and the lines got a little bit thicker. That was the last issue for 1994. The next one didn't come out until Mid-February of 1995, when Walter D'Uil was listed as both Editor **and** Publisher, and Barbara was credited for "Layout". Barbara was first listed as Editor in the second newsletter of 1995 (April). As pretty much her first

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Figure C



Figure D

Remember frame and its text, the *Schedule* frame and its text, the club logo, the red club URL, the *Founded 1975* line, and the *In This Issue* box. (That last will have to be updated later, though, because I'm **still working** on this issue's contents right now). Then, as before, I exported another PDF. It measured 570.3 KB. Before continuing, I made a "saver" copy of my Scribus work file. That's because I was going to do something next that I might regret later.

Now, we come to page 2. It's quite complex. So before re-creating it from scratch, I decided to see what would happen if I just re-used the same page 2 from July. So I made a "throw-away" copy of my work file, imported page 2 from last month's "final draft" work file into it, and exported another PDF. It

measured 791.7 KB. Almost back up to 800 again. So much for that idea. I threw away my “throw-away” copy, and went back to my “saver” copy, thus erasing that oversize page 2 from the universe by causing it to have never even existed. Then I remade it the hard way. My version of page 2 is made up of nine text frames, seven of which contain text. I recreated them (following that same list of measurements, font sizes, etc. that I mentioned above), then I exported another PDF. It measured 570.4 KB. Hardly any change. Then I added black line details to the two text frames that **don't** actually get any text, and made another PDF. It measured 570.5 KB. Hardly any change yet again. Good. Next, I filled in the text frame that displays “ACGNJ News” in white letters on a black background, and then made another PDF. Now it measured 570.7 KB. Still good. Finally, I imported the text for the six remaining text frames from their OpenOffice.org source files, exporting a new PDF after each one. The first, the “Officers, Directors and Leaders” frame, took up almost the whole top half of page 2. After adding it, my new PDF measured 577.8 KB, a

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page. If I added our CD advertisement, that would nicely fill page 3. I had three additional articles I wanted to include. They took up 3 pages, 1 ½ pages, and 1 ¼ pages, respectively, for another 5 ¾ pages. Then there was **this** particular article itself. While incomplete at that point, it had already gobbled up 3 ¼ pages. In total, that gave me 10 of my 12 pages already spoken for. Considering how verbose I can be, that more or less filled up this issue. (Although I also had some “fillers” in reserve, just in case). Thus, I had all of my parts. Now, all I had to do was weave them together.

That brings us to page 3. As stated above, I'd already decided on its contents. So first, I changed the “top bar” (which I **wouldn't** be needing for this page) into the *Brief SIG Information* header that I now **did** need at the top; and I also changed the “center strip” into the *About This Issue* header that I now needed in the middle left column, and also into the *36th Anniversary Newsletter CD Now On Sale* header that I now needed in the middle right column, too. Then I saved my work file and exported another PDF. It came in at 601.1 KB, an increase of just 0.4 KB. Not

reasonable gain of 7.1 KB. After adding the small Editor's information frame, my next PDF measured 578.3 KB, a gain of half a KB; and after adding the even smaller Writer's information frame, my PDF measured 578.8 KB, another half KB gain. For the last three text frames (the three columns of small print on the bottom of page 2), I got PDF sizes of 586.6 KB, 594.1 KB and 600.7 KB; for gains of 7.8, 7.5 and 6.6 KB, respectively. Note that “from scratch” beat out “re-use” by 191 KB. Quite a significant difference!

Since I already knew what was going to happen on pages 15 and 16, that left me with the 12 “general purpose” pages in the middle. **If only** I had some way of estimating how many pages each of my planned articles would require. Well, actually, I **did**, because I'd previously made a special Scribus work file consisting of six pages of empty but already linked text frames. So one at a time, I imported each of my OpenOffice.org source files into it, and recorded how many pages each one consumed. I found that *Brief SIG Information* would take half a page, and *About This Issue* would take a quarter

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bad. Then I imported the text for *Brief SIG Information* into the two top columns; and as predicted, it fit. (Actually, I probably could have squeezed in **one** extra line if I really had to; but luckily I didn't). Then I exported another PDF, which came in at 616.2 KB. Next, I imported the text for *About This Issue* into the bottom left column. It **just barely** fit. (No “wiggle room” that time). Another PDF: 626.7 KB. After that, I changed the single text frame in the bottom right column into the single image frame plus three text frames that were needed for the CD advertisement. (Another PDF: 626.8 KB). Then I imported the required text into those three text frames. (Another PDF: 651.5 KB). Finally, I imported the CD image and made another PDF. It came in at 1.6 MB. (Did you let out a horrified gasp? It certainly got one from *me*).

I'd been **quite** proud when I created that CD image. It was crisp, clean and **very** sharp. Apparently, according to my latest working theory (newly formed at the beginning of this article), it was much, much **too** good. I had to “cheapen” it up. I did a search for Linux resolution changers, but I couldn't

find any. (Yet I **know** they exist, because that's what they use to make "thumbnails"). However, the Help system in the GIMP (GNU Image Manipulation Program) **did** say that I could reduce an image's size a bit by changing its "Mode" from "RGB" to "Indexed". (For the purposes of this article, we **don't** really need to go into any more detail here). So I imported my CD image into the GIMP, changed its Mode, and saved it again. Then I cleared my original CD image from my Scribus work file, imported my new image, and exported another PDF. It came in at 961.1 KB. Better than before, but **not** good enough. Anyway, being on deadline, I didn't really have any more time to search for new programs (much less time to learn how use them). However, I **do** know of one way to exactly re-set an already existing file's resolution. It wouldn't be as elegant as I'd like, but it **would** work. So I created a blank page in my Scribus work file, imported my original CD image into it, and exported just that one page into its own PDF file. Then, I imported that PDF into the GIMP. Now, when the gimp imports a PDF, it needs user input; and one of the things it can't decide for itself is

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document into it, and saved that page into its own PDF file. Next, I imported that PDF into the GIMP (setting its input resolution to 72 dpi as I did so), cropped it to remove all extraneous white space, and saved it as an image file. Now, I created three small (0.12 inch high, 0.12 inch wide) image frames, inserted them at the ends of *Brief SIG Information*, *About This Issue* and *36th Anniversary Newsletter CD Now On Sale*, respectively; and imported a copy of my "Tiny PC" image file into each one of them. That gave me three images that looked just like Barbara's little computers. Finally, I exported another PDF. It came in as 765.9 KB. (Last month, when I first tried this, I used 0.15 inch by 0.15 inch image frames. Now, in hindsight, those images seem **too big**. I think this new smaller size looks **a lot** better).

Now we can progress to page 4. I decided to start my chain of regular articles here, with my *ACGNJ 36th Anniversary Party Report*. As on page 3, I first had to change the "top bar" into a title header for that article, and type in its text. (Another PDF: 766.1 KB). Then, I imported my OpenOffice.org source document into the preexisting but empty text frames

resolution. Of course, you can't set a resolution **higher** than what you've actually got, but you can set it lower. Even a **lot** lower. I set it to 100 dpi, saved a new version of my CD image, imported it into Scribus, and then exported another PDF. It came in as 759.1 KB. Still bigger than I'd like, but it's readable, so it's good enough for now. (Like my bikini girl picture on page 1, I can always cut it down even further later).

I still had a few more things to do on page 3. Barbara marks the end of each of her sections with a tiny picture of a computer. This is actually a colon (:) in the Wingdings font set. Unfortunately, Scribus "threw me a curve" here. Apparently, its Story Editor **can't** handle Wingdings fonts. (My currently installed Linux version certainly wouldn't reproduce **this** particular character for *me*, at least). So I had to find another way to get it in. Last month, when I discovered this, I created a new OpenOffice.org document, and just typed in a single colon. After that, I changed its font to Wingdings, and its size to 96 (the largest size available). Then, I made an empty Scribus work file, imported that one-character

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on pages 4 and 5. (Another PDF: 808.1 KB). When I looked at the bottom of page 4, something looked wrong. It took me a while, but I finally realized that its footer was missing. It seems that when I set up my Scribus work file, I **forgot** to create "Even" and "Odd" master pages; and those missing master pages would be where, among other things, Scribus stored its footer information. Hence, **no** footers. (Somehow, when working on pages 2 and 3, I hadn't even noticed their absence. How negligent of me). So I added those master pages and exported another PDF. It came in as 811.5 KB. Only the tail end of my *ACGNJ 36th Anniversary Party Report* had spilled over onto page 5, a mere twelve lines total. After I split them into two columns of six lines each, they only took up the top inch and a half, leaving plenty of room for the next article. So I inserted a page wide text frame directly below those lines, typed in said next article's title information (*Create PDF Files for Free*, by Ira Wilsker), and exported yet another PDF. It came in at 812.1 KB.

Create PDF Files for Free filled out page 5, plus it also took up half of page 6. After importing it, I

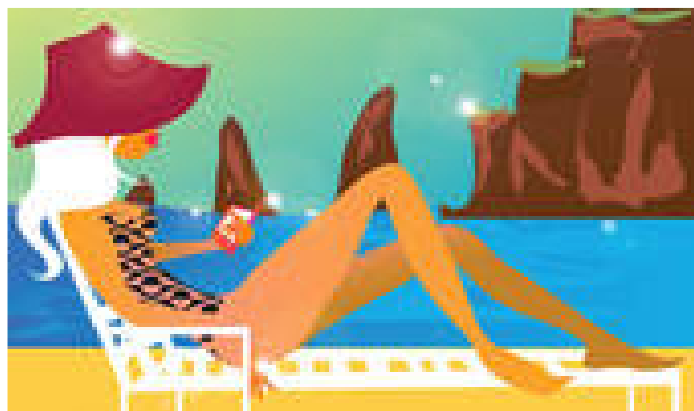
exported another PDF, which came in at 863.3 KB. Next, I changed the page 6 “center strip” into the title header for *December 2010/April 2011 Award Certificates*, which was up next. (Another PDF at that point: 863.5 KB). Then I imported the text for that article. (Another PDF: 920.1 KB). However, *December 2010/April 2011 Award Certificates* **also** required **seven** images. As I imported those images, I made a PDF between each one, as well. They came in at 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.6, 1.7 and 1.8 MB, respectively. *Award Certificates* wound up consuming exactly three pages, so it finished up halfway through page 9. That left five and a half pages for **this** article (which will require four images, too). I imported my then current version into the special Scribus “page counter” work file that I previously described above, and it took up 4 ½ pages. Guesstimating that the aforementioned images will consume another quarter page (they're small), that still leaves me with a bit of space left (maybe); but I'm getting close, so I'd better wrap things up.

Near the beginning of this article, I mentioned that

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2.1 MB for page 16 only, and 2.3 MB for both, an average increase of about 250 KB per image; and PDF sizes for the 150 dpi images were 2.1 MB for page 16 only, and 2.4 MB for both, an increase of about 300 KB per image. Quality for the 125 dpi images was **almost** good enough, but there **were** perceivable differences, especially in the smallest print. Since I'd already **lost** the “2.0 MB limit” war (and the difference was only 100 KB more, anyway), I went with the 150 dpi images.

That brings us back to **this** article. I added my (now **almost** complete) text to the Scribus work file for



pages 15 and 16 of my previous newsletter added half a Megabyte to its total size. I wanted to see if I could do better this time. In addition, I'd made small but significant changes to each page, which I'd **lose** if I went back to the same source images that I started with last month. So instead, I loaded the work file from July into Scribus, and used the “Save as Image” function to make multiple images of those two pages, this time setting their resolutions at 72, 100, 125 and 150 dpi. Then I used the GIMP to crop all of them, cutting off their now incorrect footers. Finally, I imported them back into Scribus, comparing the viewing quality and output PDF file size for each resolution. PDF file sizes for the 72 dpi images were 1.9 MB for page 16 only, and 2.0 MB for both. That's an increase of about 100 KB per image, comparable to the gains recorded for the *Award Certificates* article; but the image quality was **horrible**. All in all, the less said, the better. PDF sizes for the 100 dpi images were 2.0 MB for page 16 only, and 2.2 MB for both, an increase of about 200 KB per image. Quality was better, but still **not** acceptable. PDF sizes for the 125 dpi images were

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this actual August newsletter, and I got a PDF file of 2.5 MB. Then I worked its corresponding images (four screen prints of newsletter mastheads) into the middle of page 11. (I left **one** of the dotted lines stretching all the way across the page, to mark the centerline). After that, I got a PDF measuring 2.6 MB. When I finally completed *In This Issue* on page 1, my PDF **still** measured 2.6 MB. Except for my usual document-wide last minute typo search, I had only one major task left. That was to apply my “work around” to the **45** links in this issue. (**Last** month, in *About This Issue* and *In Search of the Missing Links*, I called this my “wacky kludge”). Having done that, I made another PDF. Its size: 2.8 MB. However, despite all of my verbosity, I still had “white space” at the end of this article. So I used my last two summertime images to fill it up. Then I made a more-or-less “final draft” PDF, and it came in at 2.9 MB. I'd missed my 2 MB goal by a long shot, but at least I didn't break 3; and I'd gathered a **lot** of data. Hopefully, it'll help me do better another time. See you next month. ☹



Guru Corner

If you need help with any of the technologies listed below, you can call on the person listed. Please be considerate and call before 10 PM.

Software

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| HTML | Mike Redlich | 908-246-0410 |
| | Jo-Anne Head | 908-769-7385 |
| ColdFusion | Jo-Anne Head | 908-769-7385 |
| CSS | Frank Warren | 908-756-1681 |
| | Jo-Anne Head | 908-769-7385 |
| Java | Mike Redlich | 908-246-0410 |
| C++ | Bruce Arnold | 908-735-7898 |
| | Mike Redlich | 908-246-0410 |
| ASP | Mike Redlich | 908-246-0410 |
| Perl | John Raff | 973-560-9070 |
| | Frank Warren | 908-756-1681 |
| XML | Mike Redlich | 908-246-0410 |
| Genealogy | Frank Warren | 908-756-1681 |
| Home Automation | Frank Warren | 908-756-1681 |

Operating Systems

| | | |
|-------------|------------|--------------|
| Windows 3.1 | Ted Martin | 732-636-1942 |
|-------------|------------|--------------|

Discount Computer Magazine Price List

As described by the DealsGuy

| | 1 yr | 2 yr | 3 yr |
|-------------------------------|---------|-------|-------|
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| Computer Gaming World | 14.95 | 28.95 | 41.95 |
| Computer Shopper1 | 16.97 | 32.95 | 47.95 |
| Dr. Dobbs Journal | 15.95 | 30.95 | |
| Mac Addict | 10.97 | | |
| Mac Home Journal | 15.97 | 29.97 | |
| Mac World | 12.95 | | |
| Maximum PC | 9.95 | 18.95 | 27.95 |
| Microsoft System Journal | 21.95 | 39.95 | |
| PC Gamer | 12.95 | | |
| PC Magazine (22/44/66 Issues) | 25.97 | 48.95 | 68.95 |
| PC World | 16.95 | | |
| Wired | 6.00 | 12.00 | 17.00 |

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| US/CANADA | | Dues | STUDENT | SENIOR CITIZEN (Over 65) |
|-----------|------|------|---------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Year | \$25 | | \$20 | \$20 |
| 2 Years | \$40 | | | |
| 3 Years | \$55 | | | \$45 |

Mail this application and your check to:
AMATEUR COMPUTER GROUP OF NEW JERSEY, INC., P.O. BOX 135, SCOTCH PLAINS, NJ 07076

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal ☐ Address Change

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address _____ E-Mail _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ URL _____

What topics would you like to see covered at club meetings? _____

| Other Local Computer Groups | | |
|--|--|--|
| Princeton Macintosh User Group: 7:15 pm 2nd Tuesday, Jadwin Hall, A-10, Washington Rd, Princeton, (609) 252-1163, www.pmug-nj.org | Linux Users Group in Princeton: 7 pm, 2nd Wednesday, Lawrence Branch Mercer Library, Rt#1 & Darrah Lane, Lawrence NJ http://www.lugip.org | New York PC: 3rd Thurs, 7 pm, PS 41, 116 W 11th St. For info call hotline, (212) 533-NYPC, http://www.nypc.org |
| Computer Education Society of Philadelphia: Meetings & Workshops at Jem Electronics, 6622 Castor Ave, Philadelphia PA. www.cesop.org/ | Brookdale Computer Users Group: 7 pm, 3rd Friday, Brookdale Community College, Bldg MAS Rm 100, Lincroft NJ. (732)-739-9633. www.bcug.com | NJ Macintosh User Group: 8 pm, 3rd Tuesday, Allwood Branch Library, Lyall Rd, Clifton NJ. (201) 893-5274 http://www.njmug.org . |
| PC User Group of So. Jersey: 2nd Mon., 7 pm, Trinity Presb. Church, 499 Rt 70 E, Cherry Hill, NJ. L. Horn, (856) 983-5360 | Hunterdon Computer Club: 8:30 am, 3rd Sat, Hunterdon Medical Center, Rt 31, Flemington NJ. www.hunterdoncomputerclub.org , (908) 995-4042. | NY Amateur Computer Group: 2nd Thurs, 7 pm, Rm 806 Silver Bldg, NYU, 32 Waverly Pl, NYC. http://www.nyacc.org |
| Morris Micro Computer Club: 7 pm 2nd Thurs., Morris County Library, Hanover Ave, Morristown NJ, (973) 267-0871. http://www.morrismicro.com | Central Jersey Computer Club: 8 pm, 4th Friday, Rm 74, Armstrong Hall, College of NJ. Rich Williams, (609) 466-0909. | NJ PC User Group: 2nd Thurs, Monroe Rm at Wyckoff Public Library, 7 pm. Maureen Shannon, (201) 853-7432, www.njpcug.org |
| Philadelphia Area Computer Society: 3rd Sat, 12 noon Main Meeting, groups 8 am-3 pm. Upper Moreland Middle School, Hatboro PA. (215) 764-6338. www.pacsnet.org | NJ Computer Club: 6:15 pm, 2nd Wednesday except Jul & Aug, North Branch Reformed Church, 203 Rt 28, Bridgewater NJ. http://www.njcc.org | Princeton PC Users Group: 2nd Monday, Lawrenceville Library, Alt Rt 1 & Darrah Lane, Lawrenceville, Paul Kurivchack (908) 218-0778, http://www.ppcug-nj.org |

Classified

FREE TO MEMBERS. Use our classified ads to sell off your surplus computer stuff. Send copy to Classified, ACGNJ NEWS, P.O. Box 135, Scotch Plains NJ 07076 or e-mail to the editor, bdegroot@ptd.net. Classified ads are free to members, one per issue. Non-members pay \$10. Send check payable to ACGNJ Inc. with copy. Reasonable length, please.



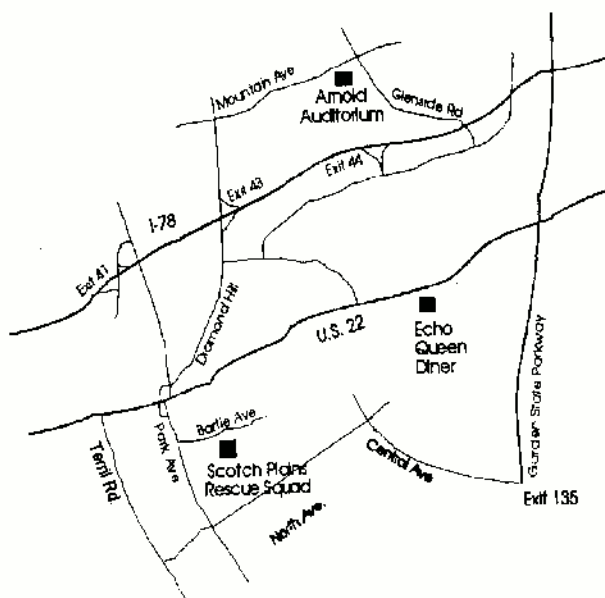
Radio and TV Programs

Computer Radio Show, WBAI
99.5 FM, NY, Wed. 8-9 p.m.

Software Review, The Learning Channel, Saturday 10-10:30 p.m.

On Computers, WCTC 1450 AM, New Brunswick, Sunday 1-4 p.m. To ask questions call (800) 677-0874.

PC Talk, Sunday from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., 1210 AM Philadelphia. 1-800-876-WPEN



Directions to Meetings at Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, 1916 Bartle Ave., Scotch Plains NJ

From New York City or Northern New Jersey

Take Route 1&9 or the Garden State Parkway to US 22 Westbound.

From Southern New Jersey

Take Parkway north to Exit 135 (Clark). Stay on left of ramp, follow circle under Parkway. Bear right to Central Avenue; follow to Westfield and under RR overpass. Left at light to North Avenue; follow to light in Fanwood. Right on Martine (which becomes Park Ave). Right on Bartle Ave in middle of shopping district. Scotch Plains Rescue Squad (2-story brick) is located on the right. Do not park in the row next to the building — you'll be towed.

From I-78 (either direction)

Take exit 41 (Scotch Plains); follow signs to US 22. Turn right at light at bottom of hill and use overpass to cross Rt. 22. Follow US 22 Westbound directions.

From US 22 Westbound

Exit at Park Avenue, Scotch Plains after McDonalds on the right, diagonally opposite Scotchwood Diner on the left, immediately before the overpass. After exiting, turn left at the light and use overpass to cross US 22. Bear right at bottom of ramp to continue south on Park Avenue. Turn left at the second light (a staggered intersection). Scotch Plains Rescue Squad (2-story brick) is on the right. Do not park in the row next to the building — you'll be towed. We meet on the second floor, entering by the door at the right front of the building.

From Western New Jersey

Take US 22 Eastbound to the Park Avenue exit. The exit is about a mile past Terrill Road and immediately past the overpass. Exit onto Park Avenue South and follow the directions above to the Rescue Squad building. ☐